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Ogena***Solutions***

Cleaning, Disinfecting and Bathing Systems for Animal Health

<https://ogenasolutions.com/>

UPDATE 4/17/20

Spay/Neuter & TNR During COVID-19

Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM, DABVP

Fran Marino Endowed Professor of Shelter Medicine Education

Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program





Alyssa Burks

last Wednesday



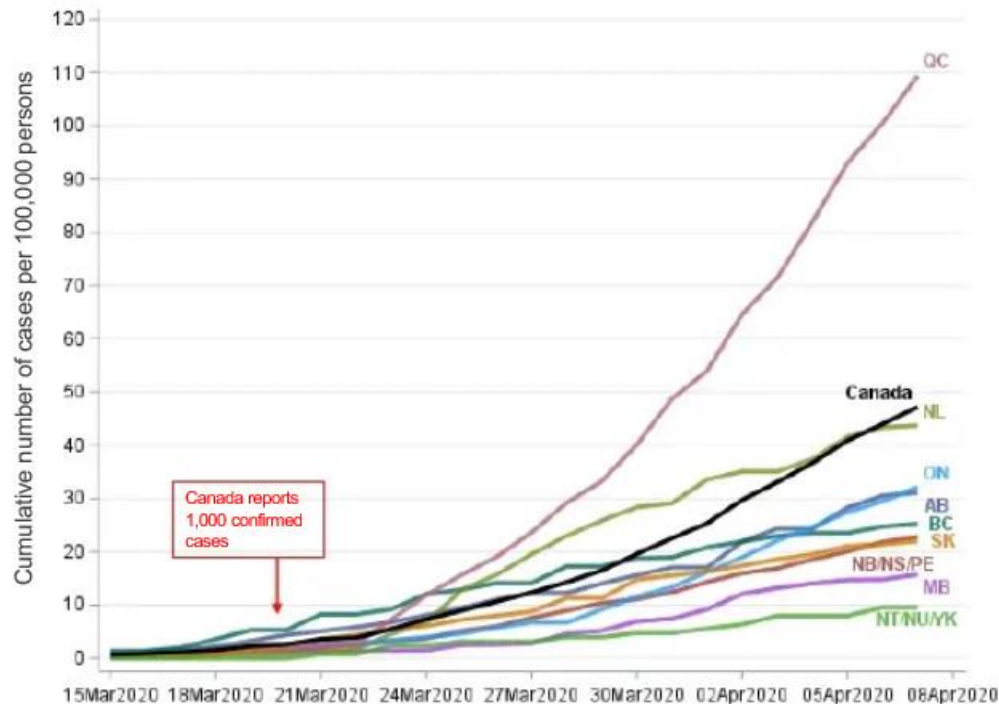
Look who we finally got to see today! Not going to pretend that I didn't bawl like a baby when he left to go back to work. We miss him, but we are doing what we have to do. 🥹❤️

Count your blessings. That's what's getting us through this!

I've had a few people message me asking if they can share this. Of course you can. Maybe it'll encourage more people to stay home.

Canadian COVID trends

Canada has a series of regional epidemics

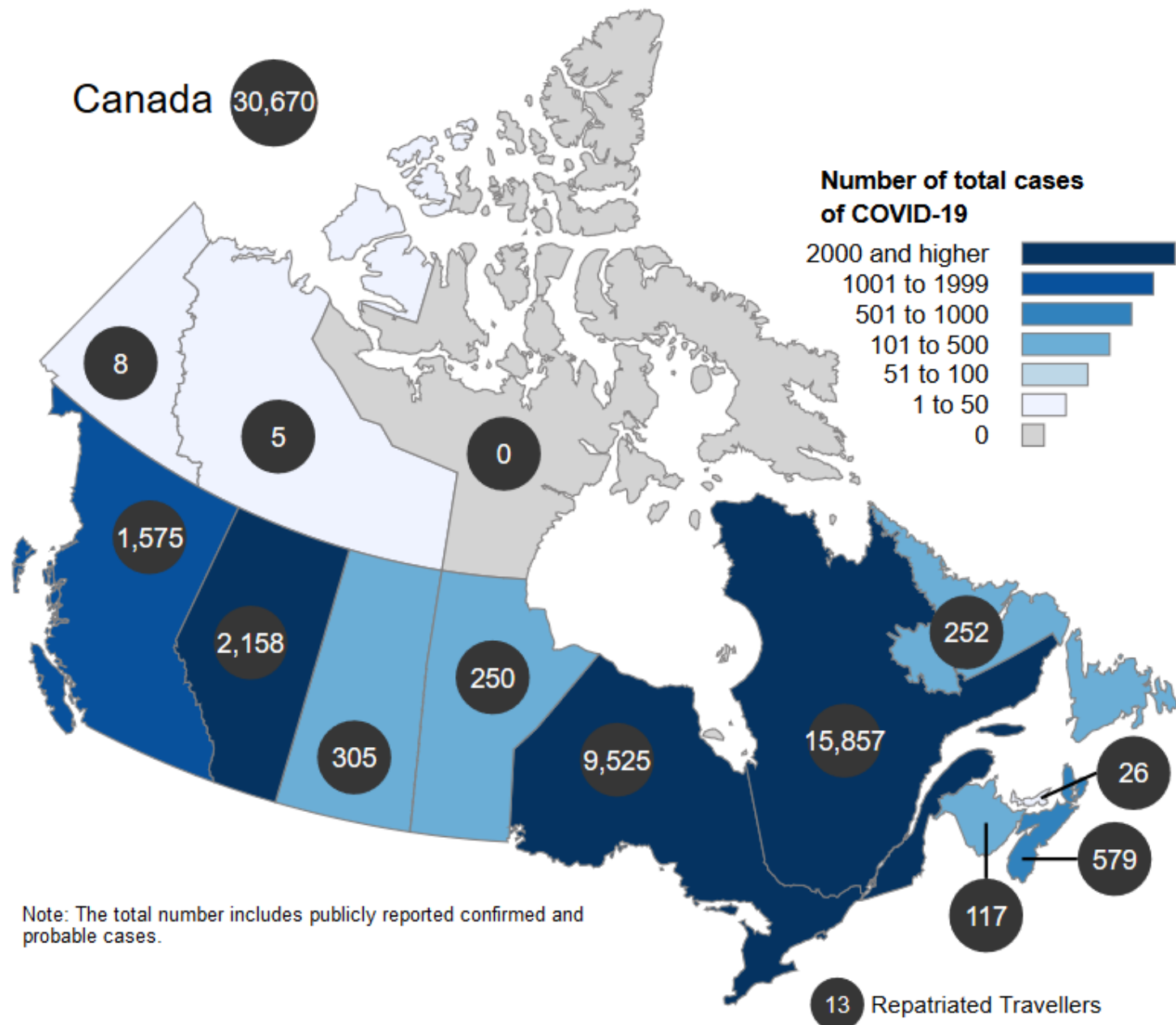


- Differences in laboratory testing and confirmation strategies explain some variation by province/territory
- Territories have very low rates of transmission so far

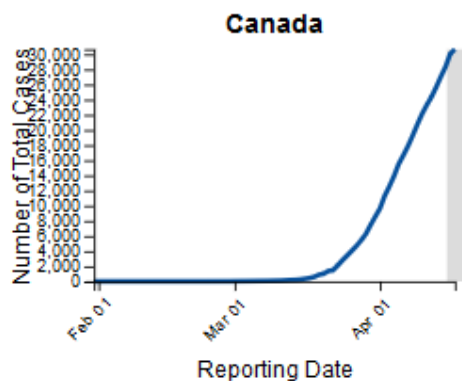
People without symptoms are fueling coronavirus



New estimates show 25% to 50% of virus carriers can infect others blindly. It's prompting US officials to rethink who should wear masks.



The number of COVID-19 total cases in **Canada** was **30,670** as of April 17th, 2020.



[Play](#) [.csv](#)

5 critical takeaways for shelters in the COVID era

1. Preserve critical functions

2. Suspend non-emergency functions

3. Reduce shelter populations

4. Preserve lifesaving practices

5. Handling COVID-19 exposed animals

1. Preserve critical functions



Critical functions

“The time for half measures is over. History will not forgive us for waiting an hour more.”

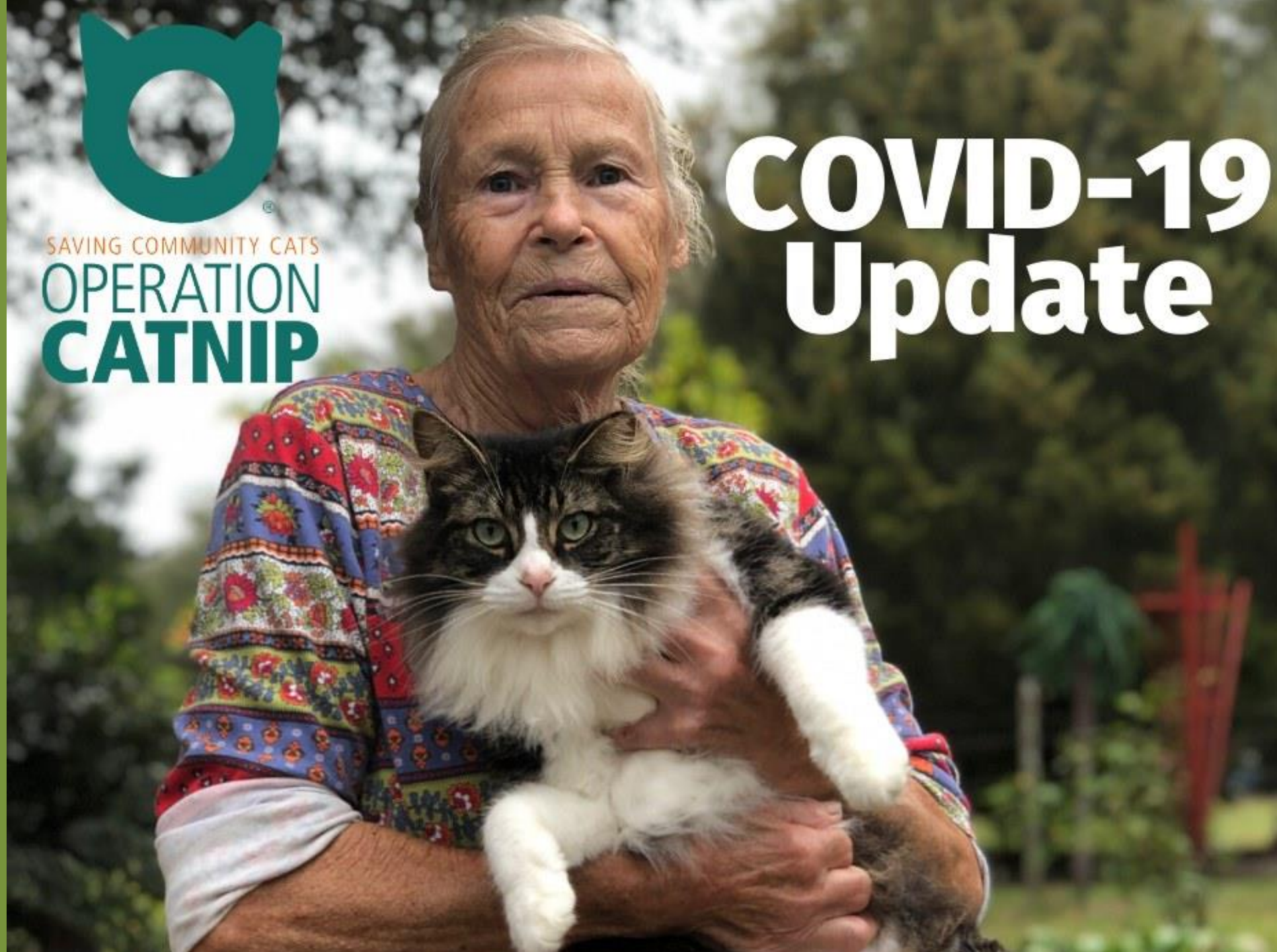
- Designate animal control, animal shelters, and veterinary clinics as essential services
- Law enforcement assistance
- Injured and sick strays
- Cruelty and neglect complaints
- Dangerous dog complaints
- Protective custody

<https://www.nacanet.org/naca-statements-on-covid-19/>

2.
Suspend
non-
emergency
activities



**COVID-19
Update**



Non-emergency services

- Non-aggressive stray pickup
- Leash law and licensing complaints
- Barking and nuisance complaints
- Conflict mitigation scenarios
- Trapping and transporting community cats
- Public spay/neuter and wellness clinics
- Replace with telemedicine for foster rechecks, medication refills, etc

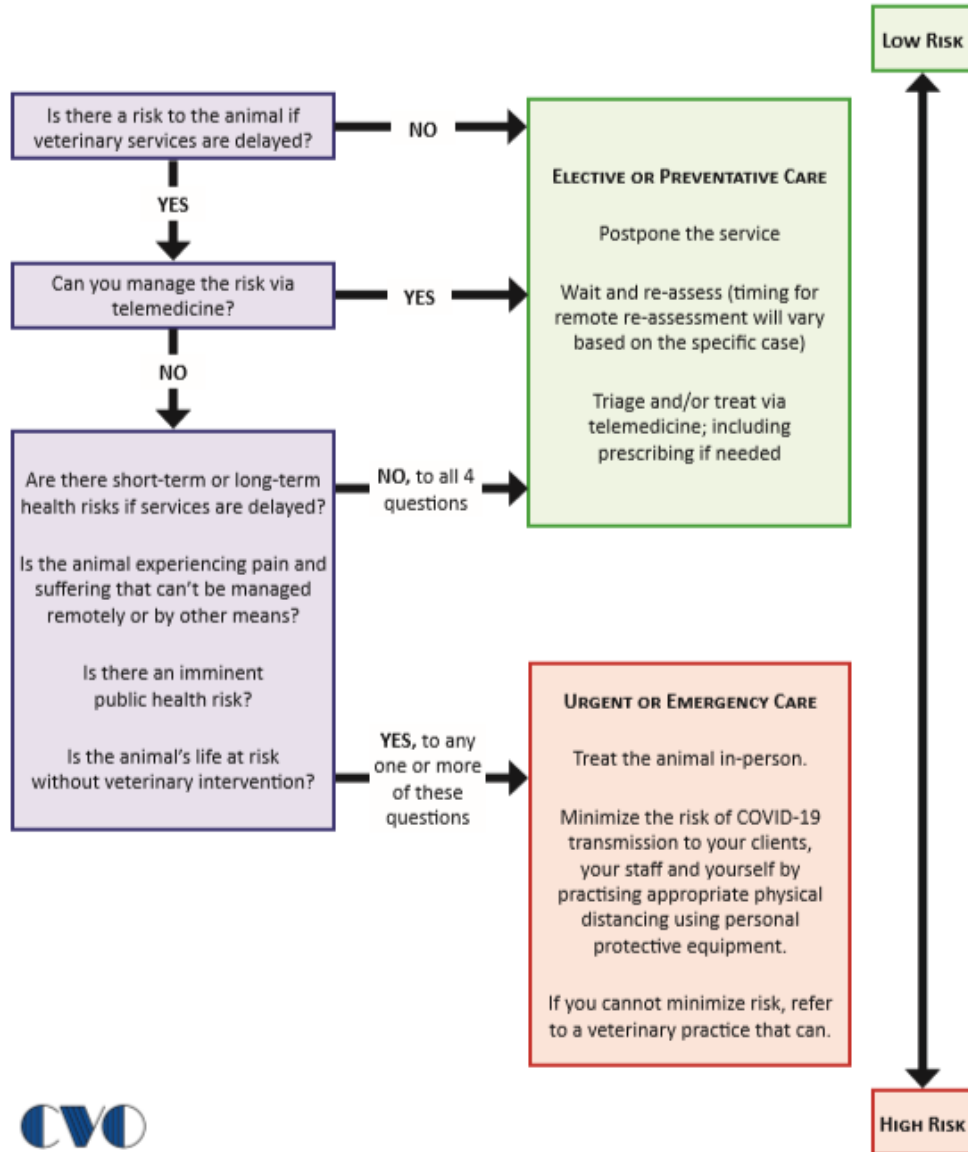
<https://www.wormsandgermsblog.com/>
www.nacanet.org

#StayHome
#FlattenThe
Curve

Sample decision tree on emergencies (NJ VMA)

- Is this procedure necessary to save the animal's life?
- Is it necessary to alleviate pain or suffering?
- Does it prevent zoonotic disease?
- Could it be managed in a way that mitigates COVID risk?
- Does it require use of scarce resources needed for critical human medical care?
- Or can this patient safely wait until resources are less scarce and human health risks are lower?

**A risk-based approach to decision-making
in the COVID-19 environment**



Risk-based triage

- College of Veterinarians of Ontario
- A veterinarian must make a judgment call based on the animal, the context, their competence, public safety and staff safety
- With COVID-19 restrictions likely in place for at least another month, or perhaps longer, the increasing desire to have a list of what can or can't be done is growing. Despite the demand, the College cannot make these decisions on urgent care and presenting cases for you.

“We were all making fantastic strides and this is a punch to the gut.”

Spay/neuter is non-emergency

- Essential surgery is for
 - Life-threatening, rapid deterioration, permanent dysfunction, relief of suffering
- Spay/neuter must be paused to preserve resources, protect personnel, relieve burden on healthcare system
 - Neuter before adoption → adopt/foster with agreements
 - Trap-neuter-return → leave cats in place for now
 - Do not euthanize or hold animals in shelter pending spay/neuter
 - Temporary exemption from NBA laws

<https://www.nacanet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Releasing-Unaltered-Pets-from-Animal-Shelters-During-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf>

Unprecedented actions to save lives as shelter capacity contracts

“We must move faster and be braver than ever before.”

- Stage an evacuation of shelter animals into the community
- Curbside/appointment-based adoptions and foster, tele-adoptions
- Urgent pleas to the community
- Eliminate traditional barriers to placement

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmPAShelterRescueSupport/>

State of Emergency: Adopters & Fosters Needed!

Help us avoid euthanizing large dogs for space by fostering or adopting TODAY!

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
“No animals in the United States have been identified with the virus, and there is no evidence that dogs or other pets can contract or spread COVID-19.”



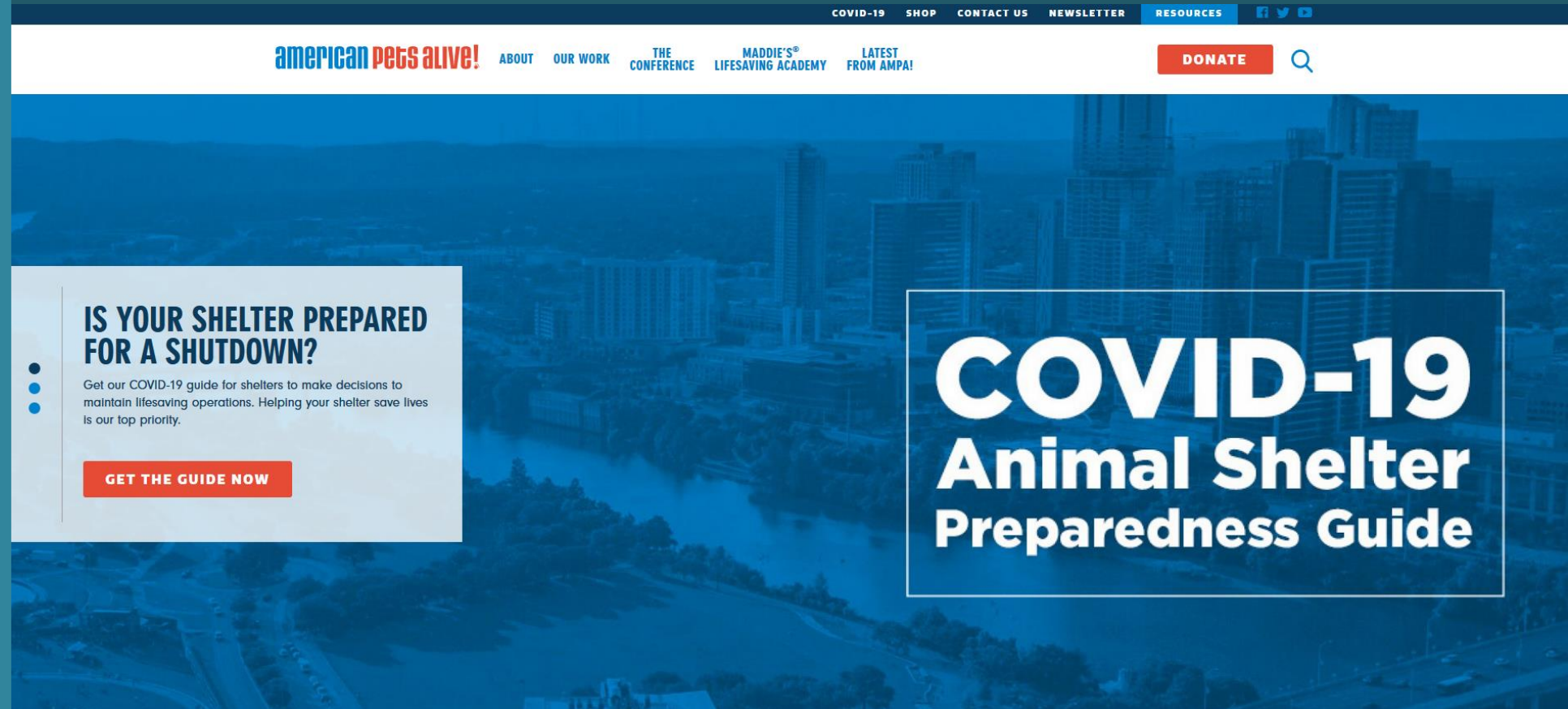
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WISCONSIN
humane society
WWW.WIHUMANE.ORG

URGENTLY NEEDED:
Adopters & Fosters

Preserve lifesaving practices

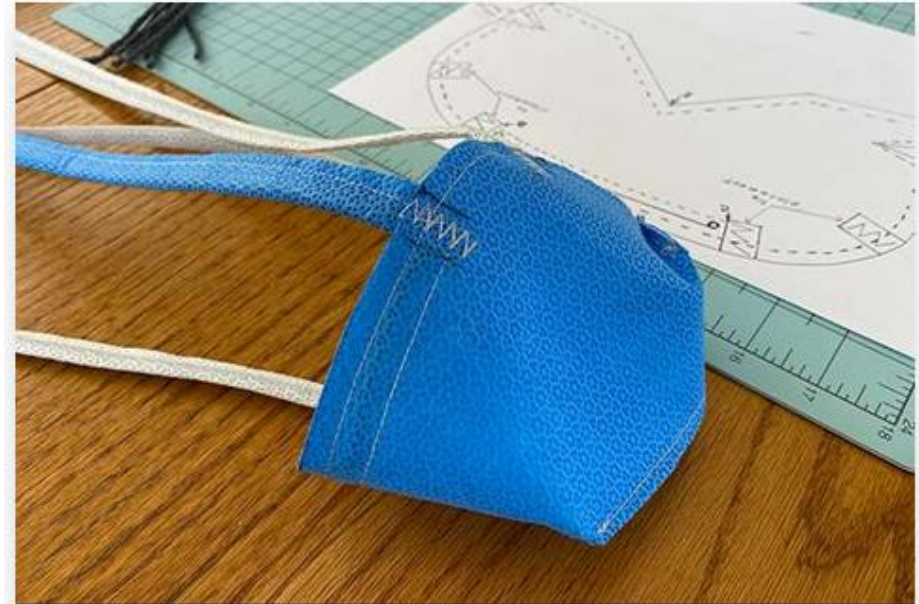


<https://americanpetsalive.org/>

Managing the PPE/supply shortage

- Healthcare system has shortage of PPE, sedation drugs, skilled personnel
- Preserve supplies for emergency use and donation to healthcare centers
- Alternatives for recycling and homemade alternatives

<https://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu>



PROTOTYPE 2

This prototype involves a cone shape around the nose and the mouth. A wire is inserted so the mask will fit snugly on the nose. It has darts to snug the mask under the chin. There is no binding on this mask.

Stronger together: This is an unbelievably sad and frightening time.

We need our vets, staff, clients, and trappers to stay safe, shorten this crisis, and be ready to come back to caring for our communities, animals and spay/neuter at levels that have never happened before.



Full circle programs

- Identify where nursery kittens come in and fix all cats from that area
- Support other orgs by transporting and returning cats to outdoor homes after TNR



Quick and easy fundraising

Five Dollar
Fridays





Messaging for found kittens

NEWBORNS The tiniest, most vulnerable kittens require the most care.

1 WEEK

- umbilical cord attached, eyes closed, ears folded
- can't regulate body temp.

2 WEEKS

- eyes completely open, blue color
- wobbly on their feet

TEENY WEANIES As kittens age, you'll help them reach important developmental milestones.

3 WEEKS

- incisors emerging, ears unfolded
- discovering litterbox

4 WEEKS

- canines emerging
- vision improving; walking confidently

5 WEEKS

- premolars emerging
- weaning slowly onto wet kitten food

BIG KIDS CLUB These social, independent, and coordinated kittens are almost ready for adoption.

6 WEEKS

- deciduous teeth emerging

7 WEEKS

- transitioning to adult eye color
- coordinated and playful


8 WEEKS

- If someone finds kittens who are truly orphaned, recruit them to foster!
- Support foster:
 - Supplies
 - Virtual foster mentor



www.kittenlady.org

Messaging for found kittens



San Diego
Humane
SOCIETY

**FIND A LITTER?
BE A SITTER!**

Watch and wait: Please DON'T kitten-nap.

Mother cats leave kittens for hours at a time, and will likely return soon. Only interfere when you are sure kittens are orphaned, injured or ill.

If you're unsure, please call us first for support: 619-299-7012.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU FIND KITTENS?



DON'T BE A KITTEN NAPPER

Mom will likely return. Please don't intervene.

DID MOM COME BACK?

YES

HOORAY!

Let mom care for them until they are 8 weeks old.

Then make sure mom and kittens get spayed/neutered. Help them find a home.

NO

If mom has vanished for more than 8 hours, she may not be coming back.

You'd make a great foster! During kitten season, shelters are overrun and don't have adequate resources for proper care.

Please care for them in your home until they're 8 weeks old.

Call us for guidance & support at 540-662-8616. We're here to help.

Kittens that need help:



This guide refers to Kittens **4 weeks of age and younger**, when care with mom offers them the **BEST** chance of survival. Kittens that fit the descriptions below are possibly abandoned and need help from humans.

- Cold** Young kittens cannot regulate their own body temperature, and rely on mom, their siblings, and nesting material to keep them warm. They may lose some heat when mom is not with them, so unless they **ALSO** fit any of the other descriptions below, leave them and check again in 2-4 hours to see if mom came back.
- Dirty** A good mama cat keeps her babies meticulously clean. Kittens that need your help may have dirt, feces, or crusted urine on their bodies. They may be wet. Their genital areas may be red and inflamed, indicating urine scalding.
- Thin** Kittens with a mom should be eating frequently. Their bellies will typically have a full, rounded appearance. Sunken bellies, visible bones, and pale skin can indicate that the kittens need help and aren't being fed.
- Noisy** Orphaned and hungry kittens will cry loudly. **But loud kittens alone does not indicate that they are orphaned.** Mom does not stay with the kittens all day long, and might be on her way back. She might even be watching you in the shadows, waiting for YOU to leave her babies alone. Leave these kittens alone for 2-4 hours, then check on them again. If they are quiet when you return, that means mom has probably been back to care for them, and you should let her keep up the good work.
- Sick/Hurt** Sick kittens might have discharge from the eyes and nose. Their eyes may be crusted shut. They may have wounds or open sores.



These kittens are clean, quiet and dry. They are plump and have full bellies with light pink coloring, showing that they are warm.

They do NOT need your help!



This kitten is noisy, dirty, and sick. It has nasal discharge and crusted-shut eyes.



These kittens are thin, wet, and cold. You can see their backbones.



This kitten is thin, wet, and cold, and has discharge from the eyes.

These kittens DO need your help!



Kitten Shelter Diversion Program



Helping our community
care for kittens

Kitten shelter diversion



www.operationcatnip.org

Stay home and foster

Fostering kittens and cats has never been more important than it is today. In these unprecedented times, animal shelters are greatly relying on the general public to step up and lend a hand as fosters. As we enter kitten season, it is vital that this community is empowered with the tools and information they need in order to help kittens in need.

To help support first-time fosters and adopters, Royal Canin, is teaming up with kitten expert **The Kitten Lady – Hannah Shaw** to offer Catology, an educational series designed to provide support and resources to people who have welcomed a newly fostered or adopted cat or kitten into their home. The free, interactive livestreams, will cover the most important kitten topics – caring for neonates, feeding and nutrition, kitten behavior and socializing, among others. The webinars will take place each Saturday from April 18 – May 9, 2020 at 2 p.m. ET and will be streamed live on the official Royal Canin Facebook page. RSVP at www.catology.eventbrite.com.



Time to scale up the Trap Depot

- Call back traps for inventory, repair, labeling
- Start a fundraiser for a big trap order
- Consider electronic inventory management



EZ-Rent - www.operationcatnip.org



Tomahawk Live Trap

- 10% discount code through 2020: MCC2020
- Gift registry at www.livetraps.com
- Favorites: ROUNDHOUSE1, 608NC, KITDT1, 711



Oral contraceptive for female cats

Short-term use of megestrol acetate for estrus prevention in cats during Covid-19-related cessation of surgical sterilization in the U.S.

www.acc-d.org





When spaying isn't an option

- Megestrol acetate at 0.625 mg/kg orally once weekly
- Estrus suppression
- Available from compounding pharmacies as oral liquid
- Affordable and safe pregnancy prevention for foster and adopted cats pending completion of sterilization agreements



Community cats

- MA generally used as a stopgap while awaiting TNR and for hard-to-trap cats
- Has been fed to individual cats in canned food weekly or as a bulk mix divided into plastic dishes 1-2x weekly
- VCPR: Who is the owner? How to adapt “herd” health concepts?

Community cat case study

- 20 acre government housing complex in Florida
- 1999 to present: managed with TNR and adoption
- MA for new cats (even if sex unknown), hard to trap cats
- One un-trappable cat had 9 litters, then treated successfully with MA 2008-2013
- Colony peaked at 135 and currently at 20 cats
- *“The only side effect from the medicine is a positive one: the mom cats start to look healthy.”*

Are you ready?



Stress and wellness



The following resources are intended to support anyone working in animal sheltering, veterinary medicine, and behavior or pet care services as we navigate the uncertainty and instability of life in the age of COVID-19.

- Free webinar from Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at UF
- On-demand at <https://jessicadolce.com/uf-coping-with-covid19/>

Animal Welfare

DAILY DIGEST



**Everything you need to know about animal welfare
and COVID-19 TODAY...from your friends at:**



<https://mailchi.mp/animalwelfaredigest/subscribe>